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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Koichi MARUYAMA

Group Art Unit: 2872

Appln. No. : 09/918,440

Examiner:

Filed : August 1, 2001

For : OBJECTIVE LENS FOR OPTICAL PICK-UP

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, §1.97-1.98, Applicant hereby calls the following documents to the Examiner's attention:

Japanese Laid Open Patent Publication No. 2000-98220, which was published on April 7, 2000, along with an English language translation of the same;

U.S. Patent No. 6,088,322 to BROOME et al., which issued on July 11, 2000; and

U.S. Patent No. 6,118,594 to MARUYAMA, which issued on September 12, 2000.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the above materials and cite the patent documents and enclosed translation. Copies of the above-noted documents are attached and have been listed on a PTO-1449 Form which is also attached hereto. The Examiner is respectfully requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached PTO-1449 Form and to return a copy of the Form to Applicant with the next official communication in the present application to confirm consideration of these documents.

P21012.A01

Applicant also brings to the Examiner's attention the following copending and commonly assigned patent applications:

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/517,576 to MARUYAMA, entitled "Optical System of Optical Pick-Up", which was filed on March 2, 2000;

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/553,854 to MARUYAMA et al., entitled "Optical Disc Apparatus", which was filed on April 21, 2000;

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/716,291 to MARUYAMA, entitled "Objective Lens for Optical Pick-Up", which was filed on November 21, 2000;

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/747,969 to MARUYAMA, entitled "Objective Lens for Optical Pick-Up", which was filed on December 27, 2000; and

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/794,912 to MARUYAMA et al., entitled "Objective Lens and Optical Head for Optical Disc Drive", which was filed on February 28, 2001.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(iii), copies of the above-mentioned applications are attached hereto. However, the Examiner is also requested to review the file wrapper of these U.S. patent application at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and the references of record, if any, cited therein.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Koichi MARUYAMA

October 26, 2001
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